

Application No. 09/836,691
Amendment dated January 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 1, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-41 are pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-30 and 33-41 are allowed.

Claims 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the invention as claimed is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

The rejection of claims 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the invention as claimed is directed to non-statutory subject matter, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

Claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled. Thus, the rejection is moot.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

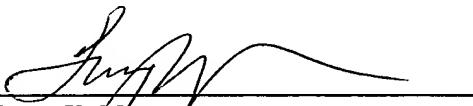
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If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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